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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

: Confirmation No. 6498

Naoaki KATAOKA et al.

: Docket No. 2001-0978

Serial No. 09/900,141

: Group Art Unit 1744

Filed July 9, 2001

: Examiner W. Beisner

METHOD FOR PURIFYING MATTER
CONTAMINATED WITH HALOGENATED
ORGANIC COMPOUNDS

RESPONSE UNDER 37. CFR 1.116

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

EXAMINING GROUP 1744

RESPONSE TO FINAL REJECTION

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

In response to the Final Rejection dated July 31, 2002, please amend the present
application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 13, 28, 36 and 38 as follows:

1. **(Twice Amended)** A method for purifying soil, sediment or sludge contaminated with
a halogenated organic compound, which method comprises the step of:

adding a reducing agent and a water-soluble organic nutritional liquid containing a
nutritional source for a heterotrophic anaerobic microorganism to the contaminated matter, the
reducing agent having a standard electrode potential ranging from 130 mV to -2400 mV at 25°C
with respect to the standard hydrogen electrode, the reducing agent being at least one species
selected from the group consisting of reduced iron, an iron-silicon alloy, a titanium alloy, a zinc
alloy, a manganese alloy, an aluminum alloy, a magnesium alloy and a calcium alloy, whereby an
oxidation reduction potential of the contaminated matter reduced is maintained at not more than

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Not
Entered
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